

102D CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3276

To reduce motor vehicle theft.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 25 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 23), 1992

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To reduce motor vehicle theft.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Anti-Auto Theft Act”.

5       **TITLE I—MOTOR VEHICLE**

6       **THEFT RESISTANCE**

7       **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

8       This title may be cited as the “Motor Vehicle Theft  
9       Resistance Act”.

10       **SEC. 102. PURPOSE.**

11       The purpose of this title is to reduce motor vehicle  
12       theft by ensuring that motor vehicles do not contain com-

1 ponents, such as unreinforced steering columns, that could  
2 create an unreasonable risk of such vehicles' theft.

3 **SEC. 103. THEFT OF VULNERABLE VEHICLE COMPONENTS.**

4 (a) **REQUIREMENTS.**—No person shall knowingly  
5 manufacture for sale, sell, lease, offer for sale or lease,  
6 deliver for introduction in interstate commerce, or import  
7 into the United States for sale any new motor vehicle  
8 which incorporates—

9 (1) any steering column that is not shielded in  
10 a manner that adequately prevents theft, in accord-  
11 ance with regulations promulgated under this title,  
12 or

13 (2) any other component or design feature spe-  
14 cifically identified in regulations promulgated under  
15 this title that, if included as a part of a motor vehi-  
16 cle, would physically facilitate the vehicle's theft and  
17 create an unreasonable risk of such theft.

18 (b) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary of Transportation may  
19 waive any of the requirements contained in subsection (a)  
20 for any line or lines of motor vehicles which are equipped  
21 as standard equipment with an antitheft device which the  
22 Secretary determines is likely to be as effective in reducing  
23 and deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the  
24 requirements of subsection (a). The granting of waivers  
25 under this subsection shall be made in accordance with

1 section 605 of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost  
2 Savings Act, provided that there shall be no limit on the  
3 number of lines for which a manufacturer may receive a  
4 waiver.

5 (c) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN IMPORTS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under  
7 paragraph (2), any motor vehicle not in compliance  
8 with subsection (a) shall be refused entry into the  
9 United States.

10 (2) EXEMPTION.—The Secretary of the Treas-  
11 ury, by regulation, may provide an exemption from  
12 paragraph (1), and the provisions of subsection (a)  
13 relating to importers, if the Secretary determines  
14 that such exemption is in the public interest.

15 **SEC. 104. ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS.**

16 (a) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Whoever violates section 103  
17 may be assessed a civil penalty of—

18 (1) not more than \$1,000 for the first such vio-  
19 lation;

20 (2) not less than \$3,000 or more than \$5,000  
21 for the second such violation; or

22 (3) not less than \$7,000 or more than \$25,000  
23 for each subsequent violation.

24 (b) ACTION OF PENALTY.—Any civil penalty under  
25 subsection (a) shall be assessed by the Secretary of Trans-

1 portation and collected in a civil action brought by the At-  
2 torney General of the United States. Any such civil pen-  
3 alty may be compromised by the Secretary. In determining  
4 the amount of such penalty, or the amount agreed upon  
5 in compromise, the appropriateness of such penalty to the  
6 size of the business of the person charged and the gravity  
7 of the violation shall be considered.

8 (c) DEDUCTION.—The amount of a civil penalty,  
9 when finally determined, or the amount agreed upon in  
10 compromise, may be deducted from any sums owed by the  
11 United States to the person charged.

12 (d) VIOLATION.—For purposes of this section a sepa-  
13 rate violation shall be found for each individual vehicle  
14 that is unlawfully sold, leased, offered for sale or lease,  
15 delivered, or imported in violation of section 103.

16 **SEC. 105. SCOPE OF REGULATIONS.**

17 (a) EFFECTIVE DATES.—Not later than December  
18 31, 1993, the National Highway Traffic Safety Adminis-  
19 tration shall promulgate regulations to implement this  
20 title. The regulations shall establish an effective date or  
21 effective dates for the requirements in section 103 in a  
22 manner that provides motor vehicle manufacturers, deal-  
23 ers, and importers, and other affected persons with suffi-  
24 cient time to comply with the requirements.

1 (b) EXPORT EXCEPTION.—Such regulations shall not  
2 apply to any vehicle which is intended solely for export  
3 (and is so labeled or tagged on the vehicle or equipment  
4 itself and on the outside of the container, if any) and  
5 which is exported.

6 **TITLE II—TOUGHER LAW EN-**  
7 **FORCEMENT AGAINST AUTO-**  
8 **MOBILE THEFT**

9 **SEC. 201. FEDERAL PENALTIES FOR CARJACKING.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 103 of title 18, United  
11 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
12 ing:

13 **“§ 2119. Carjacking**

14 “(a) Whoever, by force and violence, or by intima-  
15 tion, takes or attempts to take a motor vehicle, that has  
16 been transported, shipped, or received in interstate or for-  
17 eign commerce, from the person or presence of another,  
18 shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than  
19 15 years, or both.

20 “(b) Whoever, in committing, or in attempting to  
21 commit an offense defined in this section, assaults any  
22 person, or puts in jeopardy the life of any person by the  
23 use of a dangerous weapon or device, shall be fined under  
24 this title, or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.”.

1 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
 2 at the beginning of chapter 103 of title 18, United States  
 3 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new  
 4 item:

“2119. Carjacking.”.

5 **SEC. 202. IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION.**

6 Section 553(a) of title 18, United States Code, is  
 7 amended by striking “fined not more than \$15,000 or im-  
 8 prisoned not more than five years” and inserting “fined  
 9 under this title, or imprisoned not more than 10 years”.

10 **SEC. 203. TRAFFICKING IN STOLEN VEHICLES.**

11 Each of sections 2312 and 2313(a) of title 18, United  
 12 States Code, is amended by striking “fined not more than  
 13 \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than five years” and in-  
 14 serting “fined under this title, or imprisoned not more  
 15 than 10 years”.

16 **TITLE III—EXPORT OF STOLEN**  
 17 **MOTOR VEHICLES**

18 **SEC. 301. RANDOM CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS FOR STOLEN**  
 19 **MOTOR VEHICLES BEING EXPORTED.**

20 Part VI of title IV of the Tariff Act of 1930 is  
 21 amended by inserting after section 646 the following new  
 22 sections:

1 **“SEC. 646A. RANDOM CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS FOR STOLEN**  
2 **MOTOR VEHICLES BEING EXPORTED.**

3 “The Commissioner of Customs shall direct customs  
4 officers to conduct at random inspections of motor vehi-  
5 cles, and of shipping containers that may contain motor  
6 vehicles that are being exported, for purposes of determin-  
7 ing whether such motor vehicles were stolen.

8 **“SEC. 646B. EXPORT REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

9 “The Commissioner of Customs shall require all per-  
10 sons or entities exporting used motor vehicles, including  
11 motor vehicles exported for personal use, by air or ship  
12 to provide to the Customs Service, at least 72 hours before  
13 the export, the vehicle identification number of each such  
14 motor vehicle and proof of ownership of such motor vehi-  
15 cle. The Commissioner shall check all vehicle identification  
16 numbers obtained under this section against the informa-  
17 tion in the National Crime Information Center to deter-  
18 mine whether any motor vehicle intended for export has  
19 been reported stolen. At the request of the Director of the  
20 Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Commissioner shall  
21 make available to the Director all vehicle identification  
22 numbers obtained under this section.”.

1       **TITLE IV—AUTO THEFT TASK**  
2                   **FORCE GRANTS**

3       **SEC. 401. GRANT AUTHORIZATION.**

4           The Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance  
5 shall make grants to Auto Theft Task Forces submitting  
6 applications in compliance with the requirements of this  
7 title.

8       **SEC. 402. APPLICATION.**

9           (a) **SUBMISSION.**—To be eligible to receive a grant  
10 under this title, a chief executive of an Auto Theft Task  
11 Force shall submit an application to the Director in such  
12 form and accompanied by such materials as the Director  
13 may require.

14          (b) **CONTENT.**—Such application shall include the  
15 following:

16           (1) A statement that the applicant Auto Theft  
17 Task Force is either a State agency or an agency of  
18 a unit of local government, or a group of such agen-  
19 cies.

20           (2) An assurance that Federal funds received  
21 under a grant under this title shall be used to sup-  
22 plement and not supplant non-Federal funds that  
23 would otherwise be available for activities funded  
24 under such grant.

1           (3) A statement that the resources of the appli-  
2           cant Auto Theft Task Force will be devoted entirely  
3           to combating motor vehicle theft, including any or  
4           all of the following:

5                   (A) Financing law enforcement officers or  
6                   investigators whose duties are entirely or pri-  
7                   marily related to investigating cases of motor  
8                   vehicle theft or of trafficking in stolen motor  
9                   vehicles or motor vehicle parts.

10                   (B) Financing prosecutors whose duties  
11                   are entirely or primarily related to prosecuting  
12                   cases of motor vehicle theft or of trafficking in  
13                   stolen motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts.

14                   (C) Motor vehicle theft prevention pro-  
15                   grams, including vehicle identification number  
16                   etching programs, programs implemented by  
17                   law enforcement agencies and designed to en-  
18                   able the electronic tracking of stolen auto-  
19                   mobiles, and programs designed to prevent the  
20                   export of stolen vehicles.

21                   (D) Training programs regarding vehicle  
22                   theft for law enforcement officials.

23                   (E) Public education programs, to increase  
24                   public awareness about vehicle theft and meas-  
25                   ures to prevent such theft.

1 (F) Purchase of equipment, such as mobile  
2 data terminals for installation in patrol cars, to  
3 enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement ef-  
4 forts to address vehicle theft.

5 (4) A description of the budget for the appli-  
6 cant Auto Theft Task Force for the fiscal year for  
7 which a grant is sought.

8 **SEC. 403. AWARD OF GRANTS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall select grantees  
10 on a competitive basis, based on the following selection  
11 criteria:

12 (1) the quality of the applicant's plan for ad-  
13 dressing motor vehicle theft; and

14 (2) the severity of the motor vehicle theft prob-  
15 lem in the geographical areas to be covered in the  
16 plan.

17 (b) RENEWAL OF GRANTS.—Subject to the availabil-  
18 ity of funds, a grant under this title may be renewed for  
19 up to 2 additional years after the first fiscal year during  
20 which the recipient receives an initial grant under this  
21 subtitle if the Director determines that the funds made  
22 available to the recipient during the previous year were  
23 used in the manner required under the approved applica-  
24 tion.

1 **SEC. 404. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000  
3 for each fiscal year to carry out this title.

4 **TITLE V—REDUCING JUVENILE**  
5 **AUTO THEFT THROUGH**  
6 **MENTORING PROGRAMS**

7 **SEC. 501. JUVENILE MENTORING.**

8       The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act  
9 of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) is amended by adding  
10 at the end the following new title:

11 **“TITLE V—JUVENILE MENTOR-**  
12 **ING PROGRAM (JUMP)**  
13 **ACT OF 1992**

14 **“SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.**

15       “This title may be cited as the ‘Juvenile Mentoring  
16 Program Act of 1992’ or the ‘JUMP Act’.

17 **“SEC. 502. AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.**

18       “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Office  
19 of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall  
20 make grants to local educational agencies and nonprofit  
21 organizations to implement mentoring programs under  
22 this title.

23       “(b) **ELIGIBLE MENTORING PROGRAM.**—A  
24 mentoring program funded under this title shall be a pro-  
25 gram, or a new component or enhancement of an existing  
26 program, providing assistance to eligible children—

1           “(1) designed to link children in high crime  
2 areas with adult law enforcement officers and other  
3 responsible adults; and

4           “(2) intended to achieve one or more of the fol-  
5 lowing goals:

6           “(A) Provide general guidance to eligible  
7 children.

8           “(B) Promote personal and social respon-  
9 sibility among such children.

10           “(C) Discourage their use of illegal drugs,  
11 violence and dangerous weapons, and other  
12 criminal activity.

13           “(D) Enhance eligible children’s ability to  
14 function effectively in, and benefit from, ele-  
15 mentary and secondary education.

16           “(E) Discourage involvement in gangs.

17           “(F) Encourage eligible children’s partici-  
18 pation in community service.

19           “(c) REGULATIONS.—

20           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, after  
21 consultation with the Secretary of Health and  
22 Human Services and the Secretary of Education,  
23 shall promulgate regulations to implement this title.

24           “(2) SCREENING MENTORS.—The Adminis-  
25 trator shall develop and distribute to program par-

1 participants specific model guidelines for the screening  
2 of prospective program mentors.

3 **“SEC. 503. APPLICATIONS.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant  
5 under this title, a local educational agency or nonprofit  
6 organization shall submit an application containing the in-  
7 formation specified in subsection (b) to the Administrator  
8 at such time, in such form, and accompanied by such addi-  
9 tional information as the Administrator may reasonably  
10 require.

11 “(b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—

12 “(1) CONTENT OF PLAN.—All applications for  
13 grants shall include a specific plan for implementing  
14 a mentoring program, including—

15 “(A) the method by which mentors and  
16 mentees will be recruited;

17 “(B) the method by which prospective  
18 mentors will be screened;

19 “(C) the training that will be provided to  
20 mentors; and

21 “(D) the resources, if any, that will be  
22 dedicated to providing participating youth with  
23 opportunities for job training or postsecondary  
24 education.

1           “(2) COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.—All applica-  
2           tions shall describe the extent to which parents,  
3           teachers, community-based organizations, and the  
4           local community have participated in the design and  
5           implementation of the mentoring plan.

6           “(c) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Administrator shall  
7           select grant recipients based on the following:

8           “(1) QUALITY OF PLAN.—The quality of the  
9           mentoring plan, including—

10           “(A) the resources, if any, that will be  
11           dedicated to providing participating youth with  
12           opportunities for job training or postsecondary  
13           education; and

14           “(B) the degree to which parents, teachers,  
15           community-based organizations, and the local  
16           community participate in the design and imple-  
17           mentation of the mentoring plan.

18           “(2) EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION.—The capa-  
19           bility of the applicant to effectively implement the  
20           mentoring plan.

21   **“SEC. 504. USE OF FUNDS.**

22           “(a) ELIGIBLE USES.—Grants awarded pursuant to  
23           this title shall be used to implement mentoring programs,  
24           including—

1           “(1) hiring of mentoring coordinators and sup-  
2 port staff;

3           “(2) recruitment, screening, and training of  
4 adult mentors;

5           “(3) reimbursement of mentors for reasonable  
6 incidental expenditures directly associated with  
7 mentoring; and

8           “(4) such other purposes as the Administrator  
9 may reasonably prescribe by regulation.

10          “(b) PROHIBITED USES.—Grants awarded pursuant  
11 to this title shall not be used—

12           “(1) to directly compensate mentors, except as  
13 provided pursuant to subsection (a)(3);

14           “(2) to obtain educational or other materials or  
15 equipment which would otherwise be used in the or-  
16 dinary course of the grantee’s operations; or

17           “(3) for any other purpose reasonably prohib-  
18 ited by the Administrator pursuant to regulation.

19 **“SEC. 505. REPORTS.**

20          “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall require  
21 grantees to provide periodic reports that include informa-  
22 tion on the obligation and expenditure of grant funds, and  
23 the progress made by the grantee in implementing the  
24 mentoring plan described in section 503.

1       “(b) REPORTS.—Not later than 4 years after the date  
2 of enactment of this title, and periodically thereafter, the  
3 Administrator shall submit a report to Congress evaluat-  
4 ing the program established under this title.

5 **“SEC. 506. MONITORING.**

6       “The Administrator shall audit and monitor the pro-  
7 grams funded under this title to assure that assistance  
8 provided under this title is administered in accordance  
9 with its provisions.

10 **“SEC. 507. DEFINITIONS.**

11       “For purposes of this title—

12               “(1) the term ‘Administrator’ means the Ad-  
13 ministrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and De-  
14 linquency Prevention;

15               “(2) the term ‘eligible children’ means individ-  
16 uals who live in high crime areas, as shall be reason-  
17 ably defined by the Administrator pursuant to regu-  
18 lations, and who are less than 18 years of age and  
19 older than a minimum age established by the Ad-  
20 ministrator by regulation;

21               “(3) the term ‘law enforcement officer’ means  
22 any employee of a Federal, State, or local law en-  
23 forcement agency who is engaged in law enforcement  
24 or crime prevention;

1           “(4) the term ‘local educational agency’ means  
2           any local agency as defined in section 198 of the El-  
3           ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
4           U.S.C. 3381); and

5           “(5) the term ‘nonprofit organization’ means an  
6           organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the  
7           Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is exempt from  
8           taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Reve-  
9           nue Code of 1986.

10 **“SEC. 508. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11           “‘There are authorized to be appropriated  
12 \$50,000,000 for each fiscal year to carry out the purposes  
13 of this title.’”.

14           **TITLE VI—MOTOR VEHICLE**  
15           **THEFT PREVENTION**

16 **SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.**

17           This title may be cited as the “Motor Vehicle Theft  
18 Prevention Act”.

19 **SEC. 602. MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM.**

20           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the  
21 date of enactment of this section, the Attorney General  
22 shall develop, in cooperation with the States, a national  
23 voluntary motor vehicle theft prevention program (in this  
24 section referred to as the “program”) under which—

1           (1) the owner of a motor vehicle may volun-  
2           tarily sign a consent form with a participating State  
3           or locality in which the motor vehicle owner—

4                   (A) states that the vehicle is not normally  
5           operated under certain specified conditions; and

6                   (B) agrees to—

7                           (i) display program decals or devices  
8                           on the owner's vehicle; and

9                           (ii) permit law enforcement officials in  
10                           any State to stop the motor vehicle and  
11                           take reasonable steps to determine whether  
12                           the vehicle is being operated by or with the  
13                           permission of the owner, if the vehicle is  
14                           being operated under the specified condi-  
15                           tions; and

16           (2) participating States and localities authorize  
17           law enforcement officials in the State or locality to  
18           stop motor vehicles displaying program decals or de-  
19           vices under specified conditions and take reasonable  
20           steps to determine whether the vehicle is being oper-  
21           ated by or with the permission of the owner.

22           (b) UNIFORM DECAL OR DEVICE DESIGNS.—

23                   (1) IN GENERAL.—The motor vehicle theft pre-  
24           vention program developed pursuant to this section  
25           shall include a uniform design or designs for decals

1 or other devices to be displayed by motor vehicles  
2 participating in the program.

3 (2) TYPE OF DESIGN.—The uniform design  
4 shall—

5 (A) be highly visible; and

6 (B) explicitly state that the motor vehicle  
7 to which it is affixed may be stopped under the  
8 specified conditions without additional grounds  
9 for establishing a reasonable suspicion that the  
10 vehicle is being operated unlawfully.

11 (c) VOLUNTARY CONSENT FORM.—The voluntary  
12 consent form used to enroll in the program shall—

13 (1) clearly state that participation in the pro-  
14 gram is voluntary;

15 (2) clearly explain that participation in the pro-  
16 gram means that, if the participating vehicle is being  
17 operated under the specified conditions, law enforce-  
18 ment officials may stop the vehicle and take reason-  
19 able steps to determine whether it is being operated  
20 by or with the consent of the owner, even if the law  
21 enforcement officials have no other basis for believ-  
22 ing that the vehicle is being operated unlawfully;

23 (3) include an express statement that the vehi-  
24 cle is not normally operated under the specified con-  
25 ditions and that the operation of the vehicle under

1 those conditions would provide sufficient grounds for  
2 a prudent law enforcement officer to reasonably be-  
3 lieve that the vehicle was not being operated by or  
4 with the consent of the owner; and

5 (4) include any additional information that the  
6 Attorney General may reasonably require.

7 (d) SPECIFIED CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH STOPS  
8 MAY BE AUTHORIZED.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall  
10 promulgate rules establishing the conditions under  
11 which participating motor vehicles may be author-  
12 ized to be stopped under this section. These condi-  
13 tions may not be based on race, creed, color, na-  
14 tional origin, gender, or age. These conditions may  
15 include—

16 (A) the operation of the vehicle during cer-  
17 tain hours of the day; or

18 (B) the operation of the vehicle under  
19 other circumstances that would provide a suffi-  
20 cient basis for establishing a reasonable sus-  
21 picion that the vehicle was not being operated  
22 by the owner, or with the consent of the owner.

23 (2) MORE THAN ONE SET OF CONDITIONS.—

24 The Attorney General may establish more than one  
25 set of conditions under which participating motor ve-

1 hicles may be stopped. If more than one set of condi-  
2 tions is established, a separate consent form and a  
3 separate design for program decals or devices shall  
4 be established for each set of conditions. The Attor-  
5 ney General may choose to satisfy the requirement  
6 of a separate design for program decals or devices  
7 under this paragraph by the use of a design color  
8 that is clearly distinguishable from other design col-  
9 ors.

10 (3) NO NEW CONDITIONS WITHOUT CON-  
11 SENT.—After the program has begun, the conditions  
12 under which a vehicle may be stopped if affixed with  
13 a certain decal or device design may not be ex-  
14 panded without the consent of the owner.

15 (4) LIMITED PARTICIPATION BY STATES AND  
16 LOCALITIES.—A State or locality need not authorize  
17 the stopping of motor vehicles under all sets of con-  
18 ditions specified under the program in order to par-  
19 ticipate in the program.

20 (e) MOTOR VEHICLES FOR HIRE.—

21 (1) NOTIFICATION TO LESSEES.—Any person  
22 who is in the business of renting or leasing motor  
23 vehicles and who rents or leases a motor vehicle on  
24 which a program decal or device is affixed shall,  
25 prior to transferring possession of the vehicle, notify

1 the person to whom the motor vehicle is rented or  
2 leased about the program.

3 (2) TYPE OF NOTICE.—The notice required by  
4 this subsection shall—

5 (A) be in writing;

6 (B) be in a prominent format to be deter-  
7 mined by the Attorney General; and

8 (C) explain the possibility that if the motor  
9 vehicle is operated under the specified condi-  
10 tions, the vehicle may be stopped by law en-  
11 forcement officials even if the officials have no  
12 other basis for believing that the vehicle is  
13 being operated unlawfully.

14 (3) FINE FOR FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE.—

15 Failure to provide proper notice under this sub-  
16 section shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed  
17 \$5,000.

18 (f) NOTIFICATION OF POLICE.—As a condition of  
19 participating in the program, a State or locality must  
20 agree to take reasonable steps to ensure that law enforce-  
21 ment officials throughout the State or locality are familiar  
22 with the program, and with the conditions under which  
23 motor vehicles may be stopped under the program.

24 (g) REGULATIONS.—The Attorney General shall pro-  
25 mulgate regulations to implement this section.

1 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
 2 are authorized such sums as are necessary to carry out  
 3 this section.

4 **SEC. 603. ALTERING OR REMOVING MOTOR VEHICLE IDEN-**  
 5 **TIFICATION NUMBERS.**

6 (a) BASIC OFFENSE.—Subsection (a) of section 511  
 7 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as  
 8 follows:

9 “(a) Whoever knowingly removes, obliterates,  
 10 tampers with, or alters an identification number for a  
 11 motor vehicle, or motor vehicle part, or a decal or device  
 12 affixed to a motor vehicle pursuant to the Motor Vehicle  
 13 Theft Prevention Act, shall be fined under this title or  
 14 imprisoned not more than five years, or both.”.

15 (b) EXCEPTED PERSONS.—Paragraph (2) of section  
 16 511(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by—

17 (1) striking “and” after the semicolon in sub-  
 18 paragraph (B);

19 (2) striking the period at the end of subpara-  
 20 graph (C) and inserting “; and”; and

21 (3) adding at the end thereof the following:

22 “(D) a person who removes, obliterates,  
 23 tampers with, or alters a decal or device affixed  
 24 to a motor vehicle pursuant to the Motor Vehi-  
 25 cle Theft Prevention Act, if that person is the

1 owner of the motor vehicle, or is authorized to  
2 remove, obliterate, tamper with, or alter the  
3 decal or device by—

4 “(i) the owner or his authorized  
5 agent;

6 “(ii) applicable State or local law; or

7 “(iii) regulations promulgated by the  
8 Attorney General to implement the Motor  
9 Vehicle Theft Prevention Act.”.

10 (c) DEFINITION.—Section 511 of title 18, United  
11 States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the  
12 following:

13 “(d) For purposes of subsection (a) of this section,  
14 the term ‘tampers with’ includes covering a program decal  
15 or device affixed to a motor vehicle pursuant to the Motor  
16 Vehicle Theft Prevention Act for the purpose of obstruct-  
17 ing its visibility.”.

18 (d) UNAUTHORIZED APPLICATION OF A DECAL OR  
19 DEVICE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 25 of title 18, Unit-  
21 ed States Code, is amended by adding after section  
22 511 the following new section:

1 **“§ 511A. Unauthorized application of theft prevention**  
2 **decal or device**

3 “(a) Whoever affixes to a motor vehicle a theft pre-  
4 vention decal or other device, or a replica thereof, unless  
5 authorized to do so pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Theft  
6 Prevention Act, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed  
7 \$1,000.

8 “(b) For purposes of this section, the term ‘theft pre-  
9 vention decal or device’ means a decal or other device de-  
10 signed in accordance with a uniform design for such de-  
11 vices developed pursuant to the Motor Vehicle Theft Pre-  
12 vention Act.”.

13 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
14 tions at the beginning of chapter 25 of title 18,  
15 United States Code, is amended by adding imme-  
16 diately after the item for section 511 the following:

“511A. Unauthorized application of theft prevention decal or device.”.

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